

Pedestrian Advisory Committee Virtual Meeting on Teams, Wednesday, January 14, 2026 7PM

Meeting recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8j4aKwMSV4M>

ArlNOW Article: https://www.arlnow.com/2026/01/20/pedestrian-advocates-propose-better-training-for-snowplow-personnel-more-nimble-equipment/?mc_cid=14c06f4e2e&mc_eid=a9d68b8162

Minutes, approved by PAC members present, February 11, 2026

PAC Attendees: Eric Goodman, Acting Chair; Pamela Van Hine, Recording Secretary; John Armstrong; Don Bennett, ArNAC Liaison; David Earley, DPR Liaison; Jim Feaster; Eric Malpeli; Ambar Pankaj; David Patton, Bicycle & Pedestrian Planner

Guests: Cynthia Palmer, BAC Chair; Carrie Maggio and Alejandro Venturo, North and South Arlington residents.

The Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM, welcomed PAC members, staff, and guests, and asked attendees to introduce themselves, state their civic association, and describe any favorite innovative pedestrian infrastructure found outside of Arlington. Suggestions included: Raised crosswalks, superblocks in Barcelona (pedestrianized); longer and more LPIs, as DC has implemented; Bike-ped integrated network in Vancouver BC - great wayfinding and clearly designated bi-directional bike vs ped lanes; stop-look-wave images/text in crosswalks in NH and Old Town Alexandria. Guests expressed interest in understanding what the PAC does, how decisions are made, and how pedestrian safety concerns—especially in South Arlington—are being addressed. There were no additional public comments and no formal Chair's report.

Pamela Van Hine, PAC Representative on the [Advisory Group](#): Update on Arlington's Transportation Future

The speaker explained what the proposed [new transportation plan](#) might be and how it fits into the overall County [Comprehensive Plan](#). She noted that staff are currently compiling fall 2025 engagement results and advisory group recommendations on the draft multimodal maps, policies, and curb use, which will be presented to the Advisory Group at the February 4 meeting. If the PAC has the opportunity to provide additional feedback, the speaker will let the PAC know. The next major project will be defining the strategies - a core important activity for the PAC.

The speaker also highlighted key findings from the [December PAC homework](#): PAC reports start on p. 32.

- Draft Modal Priority Maps: Add more destination sites for seniors, who often rely on transit.
- Policies: Add 2 policies from current [Pedestrian Element](#): Finish the sidewalk network and keep the clear zones clear for pedestrians, the County's top priority group.
- Curb use: Because pedestrians are top priority, the County will prioritize building new sidewalks along new corridors. Because available ROW may be limited, some typical features of the broader sidewalk zone (i.e., trees, landscaping, benches, utilities, cafe zones) may need to be relocated to curbside.

Ambar Pankaj represented the PAC at the [December 11](#) meeting and provided meeting highlights:

- Public Engagement Feedback: Public engagement was massive (about 2500); many points were in agreement with PAC recommendations. Across all land-use types (high-density, low-density, etc.), the top-ranked curb use from broader public engagement was "people access," including bus stops, passenger loading zones, and bike-share stations. See [meeting slides](#) starting at Slide 6.
- [Advisory Group Feedback](#): Other advisory Group members often were in alignment with PAC comments. Overall, advisory group members were generally supportive of the project's direction,

and there was substantial alignment across constituencies. Key feedback comments included: pedestrianization of some streets is needed (open streets); alignment with government; people-focused language; metrics are needed (these will come with strategies); as pedestrians are number one, the plan needs to ensure pedestrians are safe, comfortable, and have fully accessible facilities for everyone. Clarification that references to “routine weather events” in draft language are intended to be broad and inclusive, not limited to a short list of examples. Concern about remaining gaps and disconnections in the priority networks, especially around I-395 and Glebe Road. Calls for stronger measures to slow vehicles and protect vulnerable road users. Emphasis on the need for internal County alignment so that transportation priorities are consistently reflected in decisions by all departments, including fire and emergency services. The speaker prepared a written three-page summary of the meeting and offered to share it with any interested PAC members.

PAC December meeting minutes: Action: [December 10 draft PAC meeting minutes](#): Moved, seconded, and approved by PAC members present.

Eric Goodman: Suggestions for PAC meeting programs and dates

The Acting Chair asked about topics, times, and which other groups should be invited to participate. *Suggested topics:* TE&O; walking meeting (spring and fall); Vision Zero; DPR; Kevin Treacle, APS; County natural surface trail study (engagement in winter 2026, Ryan Delaney is the project manager); pedestrian 101 information - to bring PAC members up to speed; what existing guidelines are used in development? Legislation meeting with BAC in September; Jon Lawler & sidewalk condition surveys ([robotic](#) and [primary survey](#)); MOT education. Jt. BAC-PAC-TAC meeting; meet with AC Police Dept (joint with the BAC); in general meet with BAC etc. to encourage speakers to talk to us. *Budget input* (regular and CIP): Suggestion: individual PAC members should respond to CM recent request (see below under David Patton), then compile for PAC response. Keep sidewalks! What happened to the County Manager budget meetings with the C&C?

Eric Goodman: Need a new Chair and Vice Chair for PAC!

The PAC will hold an election next month. The speaker stressed the importance of new leadership and led a brief discussion of PAC charter changes in the works.

Eric Goodman: Draft PAC letter on snow clearing.

The Acting Chair displayed the draft on the screen and briefly summarized the contents. D. Earley offered several suggestions of successful snow removal programs elsewhere, including volunteer programs. E. Goodman will add these to the letter. A member asked how the currently cumbersome snow reporting form can be improved. PAC should collect photos and post from the next storm. It is often not clear who is responsible, i.e., under state highways (it's part of the highway - so VDOT is responsible. With the new administration, perhaps change is possible. Contact Heidi Mittner NOVA District VDOT. Give them a specific. critical list to manage.) Another member noted a lack of current enforcement by the County - and the County Board seemed ok with that. Some PAC members requested a stronger statement about enforcement vs. top of mind, especially since the County does not have staff to enforce. The PAC should identify areas not addressed and refer to the County.

- *Action: PAC members agreed with the general contents and sending edited version out for a final vote.*

Eric Goodman: Engagement Opportunities

- CM request for [budget fix](#) (see under David Patton below)

- [CC2DCA](#): Staff for this County coordinated proposed bike-ped bridge to connect DCA with Crystal City will hold another public engagement in February (date TBD). Participants can engage online and/or in person. In person engagement is a great opportunity to meet representatives from the many agencies working on this project. A. Walker and P. Van Hine will represent the PAC and report back. Watch the relevant presentation from the [December CPCC meeting](#) (starting about 1 hour, presentation by Kyle Kling, the project manager). Also see [transportation slides](#) from the meeting, starting with slide 3.

Eric Goodman: Committee Updates

- Update on staff providing updates on transportation engagements: Changes in County engagement structure now prevents staff presenting to BAC and PAC. Engagement now is a specific, limited time, but PAC needs more - before and after the engagement. Staff are working on how to give the PAC a heads up and longer response time. We would have a longer engagement period overall. Consider asking staff nicely to come teach us about their projects: Love to hear if you're willing to share (teach and learn). Learning. Sharing. Growing!
- BAC (Eric): At the BAC [January meeting](#), staff proposed a Calendar for year's programs; the BAC initially will work on standardizing bike lane designs. The BAC now needs a calendar - police for next October perhaps.
- ArNAC: The [Missing Link Program](#) is a Civic Association proposed way to request missing sidewalks, if 1-3 adjacent lots are missing sidewalks, and lots on both sides of missing sidewalks have sidewalks. This is a fast-track program and does not need neighbors' approval.

1. David Patton: County Update:

- [MLK Trail cleanup](#) on Monday, January 19, co-sponsored by WalkArlington/BikeArlington
- CM wants your help to [balance the budget](#): Commercial revenue is way down; and County expenses are up. Send YOUR suggestions to balance the budget by January 30. PAC may try to compile PAC responses.
- Key Bridge Marriott: The site is leveled. A major proposed project with 6 towers is being proposed. The project needs a Special GLUP study before starting SPRCs. The project has potential to impact STAR study, Langston Blvd, and Gateway Park. See [AriNOW story](#).

John Armstrong: [2026 DC Transportation Camp](#)

The speaker reviewed what Transportation Camp is, how it works, and what camp 2026 was like. It is an unconference; potential speakers post their presentation proposals and attendees vote on them. [This was the schedule](#). DC Transportation Camp, coordinated by [Smart Growth America](#) and [T4 America](#), is held immediately prior to the [TRB](#). [Jared](#) Walker, the keynote speaker, wrote Human Transit and talked about transit as freedom planning. 3 books were given away: Overbuilt; If You Want to Win, You Have to Fight; The Unfinished Metropolis; One speaker used photos from the Netherlands on how to build better roads on Route 9! The hands-on session to build better roads was fun and educational.

They are looking for a new venue. Send message to Beth Osborne, at info@smartgrowthamerica.org, about using Virginia Tech Innovation Campus (good contact - BID member Franki Fitterer, Virginia Tech Innovation Campus)

The Acting Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:03 PM. The next meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, February 11 at 7PM. Look for logon details and draft agenda on the [PAC website](#). During the February meeting, the PAC will hold an election for a Chair and Vice Chair. Please let the current Acting Chair (Eric Goodman) know if you are interested in either position before the February meeting.